FFID: CA917302320800
Size: 4,714 acres
Mission: Serve as the primary Marine Corps jet fighter facility on the West Coast; provide materials and support for Marine Corps aviation activities; provide housing for Marine Corps personnel
HRS Score: 40.83; placed on NPL in February 1990
IAG Status: Federal facility agreement signed in October 1990
Contaminants: TCE and other VOCs, petroleum hydrocarbons, PCBs, pesticides, and herbicides
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: $67.1 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $69.8 million (FY2026)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2010
Five-Year Review Status: NA

Irvine, California

Restoration Background

In July 1993, the BRAC Commission recommended closure of this installation and a transfer of its aircraft, personnel, equipment, and support to Miramar Naval Air Station and Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base. The installation was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in February 1990.

Studies at the station have identified 24 CERCLA sites, 455 areas of concern, and 400 underground storage tanks (USTs). The CERCLA sites were grouped into three operable units (OUs): volatile organic compound (VOC)–contaminated regional groundwater (OU1), sites contributing to groundwater contamination (OU2), and all remaining CERCLA sites (OU3). In FY89, a groundwater treatment system was installed. A RCRA facility assessment (RFA) and a Phase I remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) were completed in FY93.

In FY94, a BRAC Cleanup Team was formed and a BRAC cleanup plan (BCP) was developed. The BCP is updated annually. From FY94–FY97, the installation began remediation at two landfills. Forty-one inactive USTs were removed in FY95. An environmental baseline survey indicated that approximately 63 percent of the installation property was eligible for designation as uncontaminated under CERFA.

In FY96, the local redevelopment authority approved proposals to convert the installation to a commercial airport. The installation completed the RI for OU1 and OU2. Soil vapor extraction (SVE) systems began operating in two UST areas. During FY97, a no action Record of Decision (ROD) was signed for 11 OU3 sites and an interim ROD was completed for the VOC Source Area vadose zone. The RI for Site 16 was completed.

In FY98, the RI/FS for OU3 was completed, and a draft proposed plan (PP) was submitted for regulatory agency review. The FS for OU2A gained regulatory concurrence. The FS and the PP for the OU2B and OU2C landfill sites were completed. The CERCLA long-term groundwater monitoring plan was sent to regulatory agencies for review.

In FY99, the remedial design (RD) and construction of the SVE system at Site 24 were completed. The PP for Sites 8, 11, and 12 was issued, and the final ROD for Site 11 was completed. The draft ROD for Sites 3 and 5 was also issued. An investigation of perchlorates in groundwater began at Site 1. All USTs were taken out of service. Regulatory closure letters have been received for 307 USTs. Thirty-two inactive USTs were removed, and 10 UST sites were investigated. Most oil-water separators were removed.

The installation's technical review committee, formed in FY90, was converted to a Restoration Advisory Board in FY94. In FY96, the installation updated its community relations plan.

FY00 Restoration Progress

The installation removed 19 inactive USTs and began closure-in-place for 5. The final interim ROD for Sites 2 and 17 was completed. RD was initiated for Sites 2 and 7, and perimeter trenching was completed to optimize the designs for the landfill covers. Remediation of the vadose zone trichloroethene (TCE) release at Site 24 and confirmation vadose zone sampling were completed. RI was completed for Sites 7 and 14. The primary JP-5 fuel pipelines were cleaned, hydrostatically tested, and closed (filled with cement slurry). Procurement for cleaning, testing, and closing approximately 15,000 linear feet of secondary JP-5 pipelines was also completed. Field sampling was completed at 20 RFA solid waste management units and temporary accumulation areas, 10 aerial-photograph anomaly sites, and 25 petroleum storage tank sites. Regulatory concurrence for No Further Action status was achieved for 36 UST sites, 12 aerial-photograph anomaly sites, 12 aboveground storage tank sites, and 23 oil-water separator sites. Remediation using SVE and bioventing began at UST Group 651, former UST Site 364A, and the tank farm.

The final ROD planned for Sites 3 and 5 was delayed for completion of the radiological surveys. The estimated cost of completing environmental restoration at this installation has changed significantly because of estimating criteria issues.

Plan of Action

- Complete historical radiological assessment and radiological surveys in FY01
- Issue final RODs for Sites 3 and 5, Sites 7 and 14, and Sites 8 and 12 in FY01
- Complete desalter settlement negotiation and sign final ROD for Sites 18 and 24 in FY01
- Initiate the RI for Site 1 in FY01
- Conduct verification and remediation activities at various locations of concern, including UST Group 651, Tank 398, Tank Farm 555, and MSC R1/Anomaly Area 3 in FY01–FY02

BRAC Sites Achieving RIP or RC Per Fiscal Year